

AC133

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¹, ², ², ², ², ², ²

Biological Characteristics of AC133 Antigen-Positive Acute Leukemia

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Background : AC133 antigen is a cell surface antigen which is selectively expressed on hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells. It has been reported that AC133 antigen is expressed on the subsets of CD34⁺ acute leukemia, and occasionally on CD34⁻ acute leukemia. We investigated the clinical and biological characteristics of AC133 antigen-positive acute leukemia.

Methods : Thirty-six adult acute leukemia patients were analyzed using a cut-off criterion of 20% or more gated leukemic blasts expressing the AC133 antigen for AC133⁺ leukemia. The biological characteristics focused on apoptosis were examined using multicolor flow cytometry and Western blot analysis.

Results : AC133 antigen was expressed in 12 cases (33.3%). Eleven of 21 (52.4%) acute myelogenous leukemia (AML) patients and 1 of 15 (6.7%) acute lymphoblastic leukemia patients were positive for AC133 antigen, and the difference was significant. None of the clinical prognostic markers were significantly different between AC133⁺ and AC133⁻ AML. Median disease free and overall survival time were not significantly different between AC133⁺ and AC133⁻ AML. The expression rate of CD34 was significantly higher in AC133⁺ AML patients compared to those of AC133⁻ AML ($P=$

0.045). Among the apoptosis-related proteins, the Fas expression on the leukemic blasts was higher in the AC133⁺ AML ($P=0.048$), but Fas ligand, Bcl-2, caspase-3 expression rates were not significantly different between AC133⁺ and AC133⁻ AML. The apoptosis rate was significantly lower in the Ara-C treated AC133⁺ AML ($P=0.049$), but the apoptosis rates to other apoptosis-inducing agents (doxorubicin, TNF- α) were not different between AC133⁺ and AC133⁻ AML cells. We thought that there were some associations between a trend toward higher caspase-3 expression rates and lower Ara-C induced apoptosis rates in the AC133⁺ AML.

Conclusion : There was no significant correlation between AC133 antigen expression and various clinical characteristics of acute leukemia, but the AC133 antigen might provide different biological characteristics including apoptosis from other immature cell surface markers. However, to verify the prognostic usefulness of AC133 antigen and the basis of the biological characteristics of AC133 antigen-positive acute leukemia, further study is needed. (*Korean J Hematol* 2002;37:177-190)

Key Words : AC133 antigen, Acute leukemia, Apoptosis

, *in vitro* AC133

AC133

AC133

AC133 CD34^{bright} 5-transmembrane molecule ,
 .¹⁻³⁾ , AC133
 CD34

AC133

1.

1997 11 2000 5
 15 36 (21 , 15)

French-American-British (FAB)

(bone marrow mononuclear cells) Ficoll-Hypaque
 (Nyegaard, Oslo, Norway) (density gradient)

10% fetal bovine serum (FBS; GIBCO, Gaithersburg, MD) 10% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)

RPMI 1640 (GIBCO)

-70

FBS RPMI 1640 2 0.3%
 trypan blue hemocytometer
 (viability) 가 90%

2.

1)

, lactate dehydrogenase (LDH),

, 1

AC133

AC133

(extra-

medullary leukemia)

가 1,500/ μ L , (blast)가 ,

100,000/ μ L 20%

, 가 5% 가 4

CD34 AC133
 CD34

,⁴⁾

AC133

(ontogeny)

가

,^{5, 6)}

(multi-drug resistance gene)

,⁷⁾

CD34

CD34

가

CD34

AC133

(apoptosis)

가

,⁸⁾

가

HLA-DR, CD38

AC133

AC133

Fas, Bcl-2, caspase-3

2) AC133

AC133, CD34, CD38, HLA-DR

Fas, FasL

(ligand)

FITC (fluorescent isothiocyanate, FL1) PE (phycoerythrin, FL2) PerCP (peridinine chlorophyll protein, FL3) purified form

AC133-PE (Miltenyi Biotec, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany), CD34-FITC (Becton Dickinson, Mountain View, CA, USA), CD38 (Becton Dickinson), HLA-DR-PerCP (Becton Dickinson), Fas (Becton Dickinson), FasL (Becton Dickinson), CD45-FITC (Becton Dickinson) mouse IgG₁-FITC, mouse IgG₁-PE, mouse IgG₁-PerCP (Becton Dickinson)

2.5 - 5.0 × 10⁵ cells/ 50 µL

100 µL FACS wash buffer

(Table 1)

10 µL

4

20

FACS wash

buffer 2mL

4

300g 5

CD38, Fas, FasL

RAM (rat anti-mouse) IgG1-PerCP (Becton Dickinson)

4

20

(FACSCalibur, Becton Dickinson)

forward scatter (FSC) side scatter (SSC) linear scale , FITC

FL1, PE FL2, PerCP FL3 log scale

CellQuest software (Becton Dickinson)

10,000

Table 1. Monoclonal antibody panel for flow cytometry used in the study

No	FITC	PE	PerCP
1	Control IgG ₁	Control IgG ₁	Control IgG ₁
2	CD34	AC133	CD38
3	CD34	AC133	HLA-DR
4	CD34	AC133	Fas
5	CD34	AC133	FasL
6	CD45	AC133	

Abbreviations : FITC, fluorescent isothiocyanate; PE, phycoerythrin; PerCP, peridinine chlorophyll protein; FasL, fas-ligand

CD45 SSC

AC133

가

20%

AC133

CD45 SSC

AC133

20%

3) Western blot

36

Western blot

Bcl-2, caspase-3

AC133

가

2

(acute promyelocytic leukemia, M3) 2

17

12%

SDS-polyacrylamide gel

ni-

trocellulose membrane (Amersham, Little Chalfont, UK)

Anti-Bcl-2 (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Santa Cruz, California, USA), anti-caspase-3 (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) ECL chemiluminiscent detection reagent (Amersham)

CSC Camera controller 1.4 program (Vilber Lourmat, France)

TINA 2.10e program (Raytest, Germany)

AC133

anti-human -

tubulin (Cedarlane, Hornby, Ontario, Canada)

-tubulin

4)

36

(cytosine arabinoside [Ara-C], doxorubicin, TNF-) 가

, Ara-C 1 µM (24), doxorubicin 1 µM (4), TNF- 10ng/mL (4)

Annexin-V-FITC (Becton Dickinson)/ Propidium iodide (PI; Sigma, Deisenhofen, Germany)

100 µL (1 × 10⁶ cells) Annexin-V-FITC 5 µL PI 10 µL 가

가 Annexin-V + / PI ±

가

, AC133

5) Ara-C 1μM (24), doxorubicin 1μM (4), TNF- 10ng/mL (4) 가 , 1. AC133 가 가 . 24 36 1.6 : 1 (22 cytopsin centrifuge (Cytopsin 3; , 14) . 41.3 (15 73) Shandon, USA) , Wright . AC133 12 (33.3%) , (Olympus BX50F; Olympus optical co, Japan) AC133 AC133 65.0% (20.1 91.0%) AC133 . AC133 (Table 2 4) . 6) AC133 Student's AC133 21 *t*-test , Kaplan-Meier 11 (52.4%) , 15 1 log rank test . AC133 (6.7%) . chi-square test, Stu- AC133 (P=0.005) . AC133 1 AC133 L2, common B- (CD10) , AC133 35.3% . AC133 (Table 5) . AC133 M1 100%, M4 Windows-SPSS release 9.0 .

Table 2. Clinical characteristics and expression rates of AC133 and CD34 antigen in acute myelogenous leukemia

UPN	Sex/Age	FAB type	AC133 (%)	CD34 (%)	Karyotype	CR1 duration (months)	OS (months)
1	F/25	M4	23.0	80.3	Normal	8	11
2	M46	M4	36.0	64.3	48XY, +21x2	10	11
3	F/18	M2	67.8	0.7	45XO, -7, +15	13	14
4	M42	M2	6.4	2.1	47XY, +8	11	15
5	F/15	M2	7.1	58.0	No mitoses	0	10
6	F/58	M4	1.5	48.4	46XX, t(8;21)	0	3
7	M51	M3	0.3	31.2	46XY, t(15;17)	17	18
8	M17	M5	64.8	74.0	Normal	16	17
9	M50	M5	20.1	26.8	Normal	18	20
10	F/68	M2	51.5	58.7	No mitoses	3	6
11	M35	M1	87.7	92.3	Normal	0	2
12	M42	M2	11.4	84.0	No mitoses	4	10
13	M52	M5	9.5	90.9	45XY, -8	0	2
14	M67	M0	65.3	46.8	Normal	0	1
15	M34	M5	1.4	0.6	49XY, +8, 10, 14	3	4
16	M59	M0	0.9	49.4	Normal	0	1
17	M73	M1	73.6	91.6	47XY, +8	0	1
18	M72	M5	91.0	93.6	47XY, +8	0	7
19	F/71	M3	1.7	5.0	Normal	22	23
20	F/18	M5	2.3	1.6	No mitoses	27	29
21	M56	M4	90.9	89.3	Normal	2	10

Abbreviations : FAB, French-American-British; CR1, first complete remission; OS, overall survival duration

Table 3. Clinical characteristics and expression rates of AC133 and CD34 antigen in acute lymphoblastic leukemia

UPN	Sex/Age	FAB type	AC133 (%)	CD34 (%)	Karyotype	CR1 duration (months)	OS (months)
1	M39	I2	3.3	91.2	46XY, t(9;22)	7	11
2	F/15	I2	5.7	4.7	Normal	4	12
3	F/18	I2	0.8	68.1	No mitoses	5	8
4	F/26	I2	3.9	80.4	Normal	9	20
5	M45	I2	2.0	2.0	Normal	4	12
6	M43	I2	35.3	94.3	No mitoses	1	9
7	F/17	I2	1.0	1.8	Normal	17	18
8	M59	I2	1.4	0.3	Normal	13	14
9	M24	I2	10.1	9.8	47XY, +16	11	13
10	F/36	I2	0.9	78.6	Normal	12	13
11	M27	I2	2.6	21.8	47XY, +10	4	10
12	F/37	I2	0.3	79.5	No mitoses	6	7
13	F/42	I2	0.2	48.4	Normal	0	4
14	M45	I2	1.1	89.3	Normal	4	5
15	M45	I2	9.4	91.9	Normal	0	11

Abbreviations : see Table 2

Table 4. Patients characteristics according to AC133 expression

	AC133 expression		P
	Positive (N=12)	Negative (N=24)	
Age	48 (17-73)	40.5 (15-71)	NS
Sex (M:F)	9:3	13:11	NS
AML			
M/M1/M2/M3	1/2/0	1/0/3/2	
M4/M5	3/3	1/3	
ALL (I2)	1	14	
Hemogram			
Hemoglobin (g/dL)	7.6 (4.2-12.0)	7.8 (2.8-13.0)	NS
WBC ($\times 10^9/L$)	42.9 (2.7-341.5)	16.3 (1.3-109.2)	NS
Platelets ($\times 10^9/L$)	53.0 (9.0-139.0)	54.0 (8.0-512.0)	NS
LDH (IU/L)	713.5 (250.0-4672.0)	1423.0 (344.0-13570.0)	NS

*Normal range; 225-445 IU/L

Abbreviations : AML, acute myelogenous leukemia; ALL, acute lymphoblastic leukemia; LDH, lactate dehydrogenase; NS, non-significant

75%, M0 50%, M5 50% , 10 6 .
 (M3) 2 AC133 21 AC133
 (Table 2). (Table 6).

2. AC133

AC133

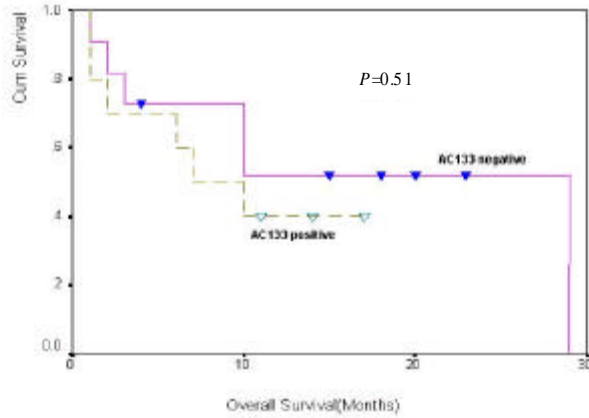
가
 . AC133
 1 VPD (vincristine,
 prednisolone, daunorubicin)

Ara-C 100mg/m² 1 7 , idarubicin 12
 mg/m² 1 3 11
 2 all-tans
 retinoic acid (ATRA)
 Ara-C, idarubicin, topotecan
 1 , 3

AC133
CD34

AC133

($P=0.045$)



(Table 7). CD34

15

AC133⁺ / CD34⁺ 10 (66.7%) ,

AC133⁻ / CD34⁺ 5 (33.3%) . AC133

1 AC133⁺ / CD34⁻

AC133

AC133

AC133

CD34

가

99.0% () ,

AC133

CD38

76.5

%, AC133

HLA-DR

94.1%

4. AC133

AC133

Fas, FasL

(Fig.

leukemia patients according to AC133 expression.

2), Bcl-2, caspase-3

Western blot

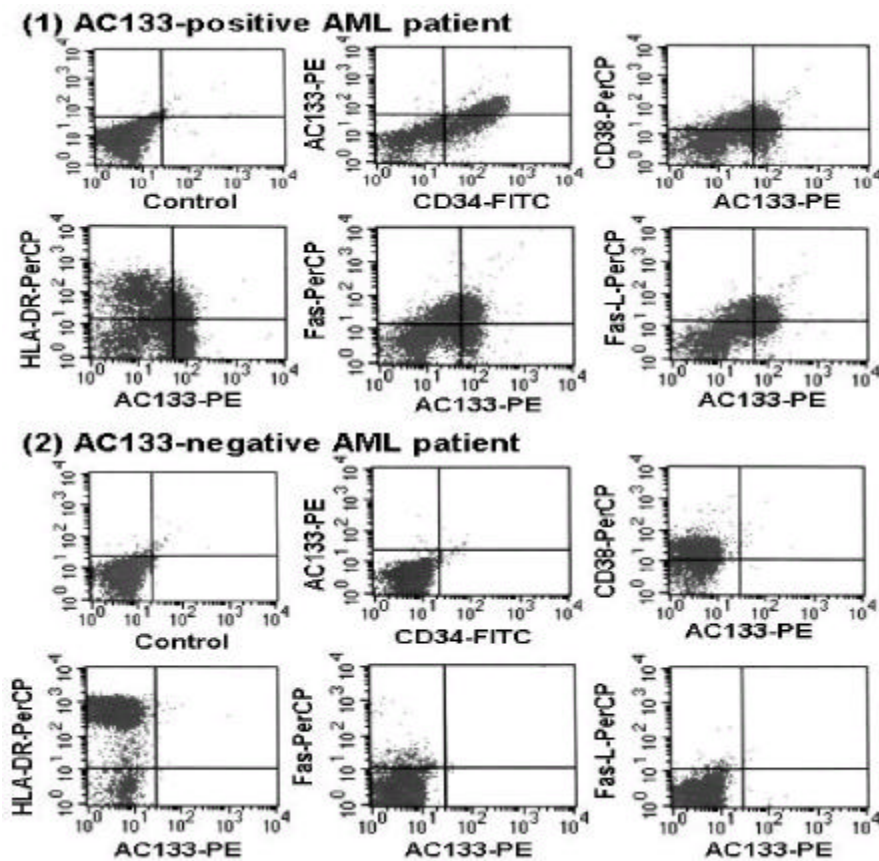


Fig. 2. Coexpression of AC133, CD34, CD38, HLA-DR, Fas, FasL (ligand) in (1) AC133-positive and (2) AC133-negative acute myelogenous leukemia (AML) cells. Flow cytometric analyses of immunophenotypes of AML cells obtained from two representative cases are shown.

(Fig. 3).
Fas 9
(60.0%), FasL 9 (60.0%) . AC133
1 Fas (91.9%), FasL
(89.9%) . Bcl-2, caspase-3
(OD, optical density) ,
AC133 1 Bcl-2
caspase-3
21 Fas 12 (57.1
) , FasL 11 (52.4%) .
AC133 Fas, FasL
AC133
가

(Table 8).
17 Western blot
Bcl-2, caspase-3 AC133
Bcl-2 , caspase-3
, AC133
Bcl-2, caspase-3
가 (Fig. 4).
CD45 SSC
AC133 Fas
AC133
(Pearson correla-
tion, $P=0.048$). ,

Table 7. Immunophenotype in AC133-positive and AC133-negative AML cells

	AC133-positive (N=11)	AC133-negative (N=10)	P
CD84 (%)	65.3±30.2	34.1±36.3	0.045
CD88 (%)			
HLA-DR (%)			

FasL, Bcl-2, caspase-3 AC133
Fas, FasL
CD34
($P<0.001$). , CD34
Bcl-2 , caspase-3
가
CD34
AC133⁺/CD34⁺ AC133⁻/CD34⁺
Fas,
FasL, Bcl-2, caspase-3 Fas, FasL AC133⁺/
CD34⁺ , Bcl-
2, caspase-3 AC133⁺/CD34⁺
.
5. AC133
AC133
Annexin-V-FITC/PI
(Fig. 5). AC133
Ara-C AC133
가 ($P=0.049$). , doxo-
rubicin, TNF- AC133

Table 8. Coexpression of Fas and Fas ligand proteins according to AC133 expression in AML cells

	AC133-positive (N=11)	AC133-negative (N=10)	P
Fas (%)	39.3±26.1	19.1±21.3	NS
Fas ligand (%)	41.2±30.9	22.7±26.5	NS



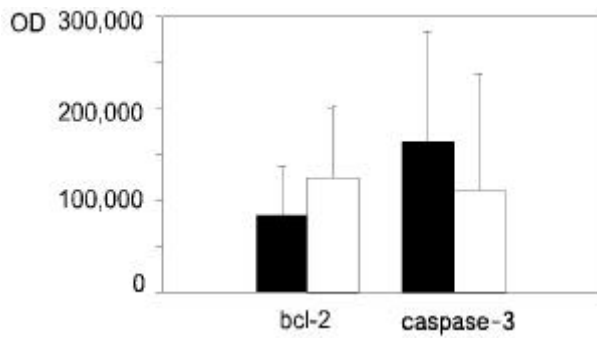


Fig. 4. Expression of bcl-2, caspase-3 in AC133-positive (closed bars) and AC133-negative AML cells (open bars). Abbreviation : OD; optical density.

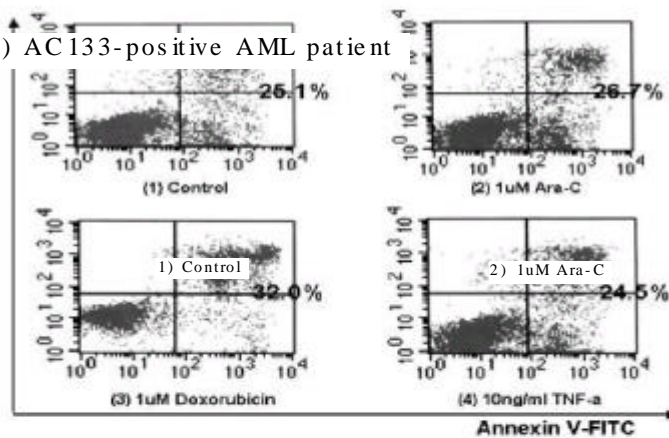
가
가 (Table 9).

CD34
doxorubicin, TNF-
CD34
가
(doxorubicin; $P=0.015$, TNF- ; $P=0.011$), Ara-C
CD34
가
AC133
(Fig. 6).

가
, AC133

1) AC133-positive AML patient

(1) AC133-positive AML patient



2) AC133-negative AML patient

(2) AC133-negative AML patient

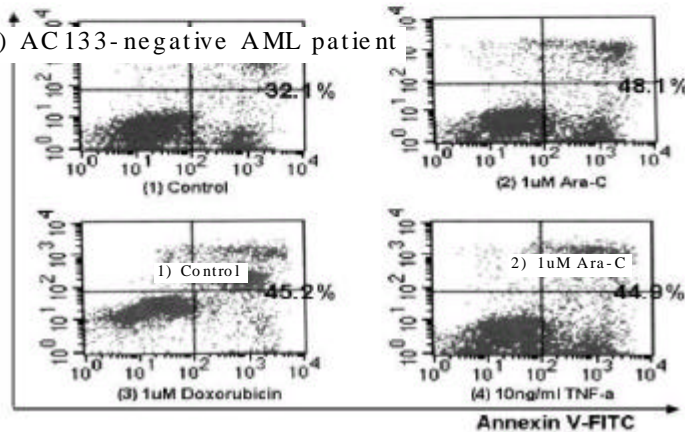


Fig. 5. Dual color analysis of apoptosis in AC133-positive and (2) AC133-negative AML cells (representative cases). (1) Untreated control cells. (2) Cells treated with 1μM Ara-C for 24hrs. (3) Cells treated with 1μM doxorubicin for 4hrs. (4) Cells treated with 10ng/mL TNF-α for 4hrs.

가 .

AC133
1 4)

36 33.3

% AC133
52.4%,
Buhring 4) 6.7% AC133
32
AC133 78%,
87%,

Table 9. Percentage of apoptosis according to AC133 expression in AML cells

	AC133-positive (N=11)	AC133-negative (N=10)	P
Ara-C (%)	34.8 ± 6.3	39.7 ± 4.2	0.049
Doxorubicin (%)	40.7 ± 7.1	45.4 ± 3.2	NS
TNF- (%)	34.7 ± 1.6	36.6 ± 4.0	NS

Abbreviations :Ara-C, cytosine arabinoside; TNF- , tumor necrosis factor- alpha

56% AC133
Buhring 4) AC133
 ,
 ,
 . CD34 (M0, M1, M4)
 , 6) AC133
AC133 FAB 가
가 .
AC133
CD34 , AC133 CD34
CD34
Buhring 4) (AC133⁺ / CD34⁺ ; 70
%, AC133⁻ / CD34⁺ ; 9%, AC133⁺ / CD34⁻ ; 17%)
 . CD34
가 , 5, 6) AC133
가 , AC133⁺ /
AC133⁻ / CD34⁺
가 . Horn 3)
30 AC133

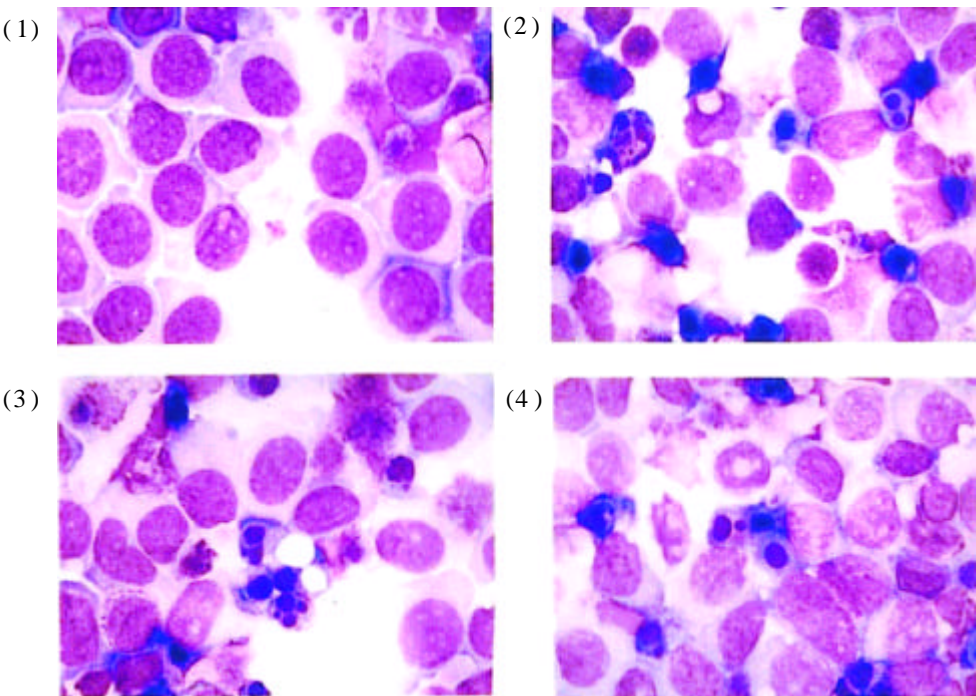


Fig. 6. Light microscopic findings of apoptotic AC133-positive AML cells (Wright's stain, × 1,000). (1) Untreated control cells. (2) Cells treated with 1μM ara-C for 24hrs. (3) Cells treated with 1μM doxorubicin for 4hrs. (4) Cells treated with 10ng/mL TNF- for 4hrs.

, AC133
AC133
1
LDH¹⁰⁾ AC133
Grim-
wade¹¹⁾ -5, -7,
3q +8, +
21, +22, t (8;21),
t (15;17), inv (16)
AC133
HLA-DR¹²⁾ CD38
CD38
CD34⁺ / CD38⁻
가
CD38^{14, 15)}
HLA-DR 85.7%, 90.5%
AC133
가
AC133
AC133
HLA-DR
Fas FasL
가 가
etoposide, cisplatin)
Fas
AC133 가 Fas
가 (P=0.048), FasL
가
CD34 Fas, FasL
Fas, FasL
AC133⁺ / CD34⁺
AC133⁻ / CD34⁺ Fas, FasL
가 AC133

Fas 가 AC133
CD34 Fas
CD34⁺ / CD38⁻
Fas Fas
가
CD38 94.7% (18 / 19)
CD34⁺ / CD38⁻
Fas, FasL
CD38 Fas
CD38
(P<0.01), FasL CD38
(P=0.56).
Fas, FasL
Bcl-2 (Bcl-2, Bcl-X, Bcl-X_L, Bcl-X_s, BAX, BAD, MCL-1) IL-1
[interleukin-1 converting enzyme (ICE)-related proteins; ICE, CPP32 (caspase-3), ICH-1 (caspase-2)]
Bcl-2 가
CD34²¹⁾ Bcl-2
AC133
AC133 Bcl-2
Bcl-2
AC133
가
CD34⁺ AC133⁺ / CD34⁺
Caspase-3 (proenzyme)
가
DNA-repair enzyme poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP)
Ara-C, etoposide,
mitoxantrone caspase-3
caspase-3 가
가
(uncleaved) caspase-3
AC133

²⁹⁾ AC133
 caspase-3 CD34
 doxorubicin TNF- 가 가
 AC133 Fas/ FasL
 가
 AC133
 , AC133
 가
 AC133
 CD34
 AC133 (signal
 가
 caspase-3
 AC133
 Ara-C caspase-3 DNA
^{23 25)} Ara-C
 AC133
 , AC133
 cas-
 AC133
 AC133
 AC133
 caspase-3
 Ara-C caspase-3
 Ara-C 가
 caspase-3
²²⁾
 AC133
 caspase-3 AC133
 AC133
 CD34
 Ara-C 가
 AC133 CD34
 21 , 15) , AC133
 가 20% AC133
 . AC133
 Doxorubicin topoisomerase II
 DNA , reactive oxygen species (ROS)
²⁶⁾
 doxorubicin Fas/ FasL
^{16, 17, 27)} AC133
 doxorubicin 가 AC133
 가
 , CD34
 CD34 (P=
 0.015).
 TNF- Fas 가
²⁸⁾ AC133
 TNF-
 가 AC133
 가 , CD34
 CD34
 CD34
 TNF-
 NF-kappaB
 Fas
 AC133
 (P=0.048). ,
 ligand, Bcl-2, caspase-3 AC133
 AC133

Ara-C
AC133 가
($P=0.049$), doxorubicin, TNF-
가 .
caspase-3 AC133
AC133
Ara-C 가
.
: AC133
, AC133
가
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, AC133
AC133
가 .

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